

State of Utah

Department of Natural Resources

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Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

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Governor

GAYLE F. McKEACHNIE
Lieutenant Governor

April 5, 2004

TO:

File

FROM:

Paul Baker, Senior Reclamation Biologist

SUBJECT:

Site Inspection, Jason Shumway, Picture Rock Quarry, S/037/099.

San Juan County, Utah

Date of Inspection:

March 19, 2004

Time of Inspection:

About 9:30 to 9:45 a.m.

Conditions:

Mostly clear, 60's

Participants:

Paul Baker, DOGM

Purpose of Inspection:

The operator requested that the site be released.

Observations:

The site has been regraded to a smooth, nearly flat surface (Photo 3). I did not see any vegetation. Photo 1 shows a pile of material remaining on the west side of the quarry, and Photo 2 is the outslope on the east side.

Conclusions and Recommendations:

I understand, both from records in the file and from Ted McDougall of the Bureau of Land Management, that this site had been previously disturbed by San Juan County. With this in mind, although the shape of the site does not precisely match surrounding areas, it is close enough for release.

The operator did not request a variance from revegetation requirements in the Notice of Intention, so the revegetation standard is 70 percent of the cover in adjacent undisturbed areas. I did not attempt to measure offsite vegetation, but it was clear the site does not have 70 of the cover in the adjacent pinyon/juniper community.



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Inspection Date: March 19, 2004; Report Date: April 5, 2004

To establish vegetation, the operator needs to, foremost, roughen the surface. This should be done in the fall and should also be done almost immediately before seeding. Since the site is nearly flat, it does not need to be extremely rough, but I recommend that it be ripped at least one foot deep with ripper shanks no more than about three feet apart. Species that might be included in a seed mix are fourwing saltbush, Indian ricegrass, galleta, streambank wheatgrass, bottlebrush squirreltail, and possibly some introduced species, like crested wheatgrass, Siberian wheatgrass, and Russian wild rye. The Bureau of Land Management may object to the use of introduced species.

PBB:jb

cc: Jason Shumway, Operator
Ted McDougall, BLM, Monticello FO
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ATTACHMENT

Photographs
S/037/099, Picture Rock Quarry, Jason Shumway
Inspection Dated: March 19, 2004; Report Dated: April 5, 2004



Photo 1.



Photo 2.



Photo 3.